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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 587
By Winningham

A RESOLUTION To recognize and honor the Boy Scouts of America for meritorious service to the young people of our State and Nation.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor those exemplary organizations that educate, enrich, and serve the citizens of this great State, especially our youth; and

WHEREAS, The Boy Scouts of America is one such estimable organization, which provides young people with an educational program that contributes significantly to their character development, citizenship training, and improved mental and physical fitness; and

WHEREAS, The Boy Scouts of America was incorporated on February 8, 1910, under the laws of the District of Columbia, by W. D. Boyce; and

WHEREAS, On June 21, 1910, a group of 34 national representatives of boys' work agencies met, developed organization plans, and opened a temporary national headquarters in a YMCA office in New York; and

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WHEREAS, In September of that crucial year, the new group received significant support from Robert S. S. Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, when he visited America and interpreted the program; and

WHEREAS, Since that beginning, more than 90,525,000 Boy Scouts have benefited from this most commendable program; and

WHEREAS, Throughout its history, The Boy Scouts of America has steadfastly fostered young citizens who are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit; have a high degree of self-reliance, as evidenced in their possession of such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness; have personal values based on religious concepts; have the desire and skills to help others; understand the principles of the American social, economic, and governmental systems; are knowledgeable about, and take pride in, their American heritage and understand our Nation's role in the world; have a keen respect for the basic rights of all peoples, and are prepared to participate in, and serve as leaders in their community, State, and Nation; and

WHEREAS, The Boy Scouts of America, its leaders, and members are wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State"; and

WHEREAS, Scouting Organizations in the State of Tennessee have outstanding records of building character among our youth; their numerous activities provide a safe harbor for young people to gather together in friendship and expand their skills and knowledge; and

WHEREAS, At a time when the youth of our country face tremendous challenges, the Boy Scouts of America is one of this Nation's greatest assets; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that this legislative body should pause in its deliberations to pay tribute to the Boy Scouts of America for their remarkable service to the young people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, That we honor the Boy Scouts of America for its long and admirable history, commend its leaders and members for their hard work and dedication, and express our gratitude for their stalwart efforts on behalf of this Nation's and this State's youth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we encourage our State colleges and universities, community colleges, and technology centers to be supportive of, and encourage, Scouting activities on their campuses and in our region.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.